

continues down the path they are on, they will find the stiff opposition that that path deserves.

NOMINATION OF SARAH BLOOM RASKIN

Now, on another matter, there is bipartisan Senate opposition to Sarah Bloom Raskin, President Biden's radical and unacceptable nominee for the powerful Federal Reserve Board position of Vice Chair for Supervision.

Runaway inflation is hammering American families. Democrats' reckless policies have backed the Fed into a very tricky corner. Just this morning, the new "Producer Price Index Report" showed wholesale inflation is up 10 percent—10 percent—over 12 months, tied for the worst year ever.

At a time like this, the Fed's independence is paramount. But President Biden's nominee for this powerful seat has spent years campaigning to turn the Fed from a nonpartisan central bank into a far-left superlegislature that voters cannot get rid of.

Explicitly and repeatedly, she has called for the Fed to go about picking winners and losers in accord with liberal ideological goals completely unrelated to the Fed's core duties.

The far left cheered Ms. Raskin's nomination for the same reason that Senators from both parties oppose it. She wants to take radical policy aims that liberals can't achieve through Congress and hardwire them directly into our financial system instead.

President Biden was literally asking for Senators to support a central banker—a central banker—who wanted to usurp the Senate's policymaking power for herself.

Ms. Raskin would have been a Vice Chair who sought to raise gas prices, raise home heating costs, and undermine the very institution of the Federal Reserve in the process.

It is not surprising that there is bipartisan Senate opposition to such a radical nominee. Even before one considers the unanswered ethical questions to which the Banking Committee has not been able to get straight answers, President Biden's selection wildly—wildly—missed the mark. It is past time the White House admit their mistake and send us somebody suitable.

NOMINATION OF KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

Now, on one final matter, what can the Senate conclude about a Supreme Court nominee from the nature of their fan club?

That is a question the Democratic leader answered very clearly a few years back. In 2005, Senator SCHUMER accused future Chief Justice John Roberts of being "embraced by some of the most extreme ideologues in America."

Our colleague continues:

That gives rise to a question many are asking: What do they know about you that we do not know?

That was Senator SCHUMER questioning the Chief Justice. Of course, there was nothing extreme about then-Judge Roberts, nor about mainstream scholarly groups like the Federalist

Society. But given Democrats' principle that the Senate ought to examine nominees' fan clubs, let's take a look at the loudest cheerleaders for President Biden's nominee, Judge Jackson.

Before the 2020 election, one far-left dark money group put Judge Jackson on their Supreme Court short list—well, not at first. She was left off their first version, but, shortly thereafter, the judge published a fiery 118-page opinion in a politically charged case that won attention and praise from liberal pundits.

One cable TV host observed that Judge Jackson's opinion was not standard legal writing, but was written with "a broader audience in mind."

Not long after, Judge Jackson was added to the next version of the activists' short list. Practically as soon as President Biden was sworn in, this group began spending big sums of money boosting Judge Jackson's profile. They put her face on posters around the Senate. They paid for billboards pushing Justice Breyer to retire.

This is a far, far-left group. They agitate for partisan Court packing. They drive around town trying to harass Justice Kavanaugh. They filed a frivolous ethics complaint against former DC Circuit Judge Tom Griffith. Last week on television, one of their board members said our Constitution—listen to this—our Constitution "is kind of trash."

This group's entire purpose and fundraising model is waging war on the legitimacy of the judiciary itself, and for some reason, these people desperately wanted Judge Jackson in particular to end up on our highest Court. Why? Well, Senators will need to explore that.

A representative from this radical outfit told the Washington Post that they like Judge Jackson for reasons that include her work "as a public defender and on the U.S. Sentencing Commission."

We are in the middle of a violent crime wave, including soaring rates of homicides and carjackings. Even last summer, when the pandemic posed a bigger challenge, more Americans said violent crime was a bigger problem than said COVID was.

Amid all this, the soft-on-crime brigade is squarely in Judge Jackson's corner. They wanted her above anyone else on the short list. And they specifically cite her experience defending criminals and her work on the Sentencing Commission as key qualifications.

As Leader SCHUMER once asked, what do these folks know that Senators may not? I hope the vigorous Senate process ahead, including all the necessary documents and records from Judge Jackson's time on the Sentencing Commission, may begin to shed more light.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am glad I was on the floor to hear the Re-

publican leader's comments about our Supreme Court nominee, Ketanji Brown Jackson, because there are a couple of elements that he obviously inadvertently missed that he should have reported when he was talking about the support that she has received from across the political spectrum. He made her out to be a product and creation of some far-left political cause or movement, but she is much more than that.

He went on to say that Judge Thomas Griffith of the DC Circuit was harassed by the same special interest group that supports Judge Jackson. He missed one key element. I just received a letter within the last 2 weeks from Judge Thomas Griffith, a well-known, retired, conservative Federal judge, endorsing Ketanji Brown Jackson. How about that?

It doesn't sound like a special interest group to me. It sounds like a Republican-appointed judge who saw her in action and wants to make sure that she gets a chance to serve on the Supreme Court of the United States.

It makes a big difference because, if you take a look at what he had to say about her, Judge Griffith wrote:

Judge Jackson has a demonstrated record of excellence, and I believe, based upon her work as a trial judge when I served on the Court of Appeals, [that] she will adjudicate based on the facts and the law and not as a partisan.

That is exactly the opposite of the point that was being made by Senator MCCONNELL. She has the support across the political spectrum. He failed to mention that she has been endorsed by the Fraternal Order of Police.

Oh, she is supposedly suspect of being too liberal. Well, I can just tell you that she is a person of quality, integrity, and values, and she has the support across the political spectrum to prove it.

I believe she is going to be an extraordinary Justice on the Supreme Court, and President Biden made a good choice in selecting her.

UKRAINE

Mr. President, moving to a different topic, what does courage look like? What does the face of courage look like? Well, we see it every day on television out of Ukraine. We see individuals leaving their regular lives, grabbing a rifle to defend their nation, and being prepared to die in the process. That is the face of courage.

We see the face of courage in the President of Ukraine, an extraordinary individual, who once was a rising standup comedian and now is a rising standup President for his nation of Ukraine, risking his life every day to stay in Kyiv and to be there to inspire his people to resist Putin's barbaric invasion of that country.

We are going to see that tomorrow in the joint session of Congress. It is the first Zoom joint session of Congress that I have ever been in attendance, and I am glad we are doing it. For the last several weeks, I have been in touch